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### IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

re application of

Atsushi YAMAMOTO et al.

Serial No. 10/629,786 : Attn: APPLICATION BRANCH

Filed July 30, 2003 : Attorney Docket No. 2003\_1068A

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ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants request consideration of [X] the references listed on attached form PTO-1449 and/or [] the additional information identified below in paragraph 3. A legible copy of each reference listed on the form PTO-1449 and each U.S. patent application listed below is enclosed, except a copy is not provided for each U.S. patent and/or U.S. patent publication reference.

1a. [X] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

within three months of the filing date (or of entry into the National Stage) of the above-entitled application, or

before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits,

and thus no certification and/or fee is required.

1b.	IJ	This	Information	Disclosure	Statement	is submitted
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after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance or an action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and thus:

- (1) [] the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, or
- (2) [] the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

## 1c. [] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

after the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance or action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:

the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and

the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

# 2. It is hereby certified

- a. [] that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure

  Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a

  counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of
  the Statement, or
- b. [] that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.
- 3. [] Consideration of the following list of additional information (including any copending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested.
- 4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449, reference is made to:

- a. [] a full or partial English language translation submitted herewith,
- b. [] a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith,
- c. [] the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page,
- d. [X] the concise explanation set forth in the attached English language abstract,
- e. [] the concise explanation set forth below or on a separate sheet attached to the reference:
- 5. [] A foreign patent office search report citing one or more of the references is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Atsushi YAMAMOTO et al.

Jeffrey R Filmel

Registration No. 41,471 Attorney for Applicants

JRF/fs Washington, D.C. 20006-1021 Telephone (202) 721-8200 Facsimile (202) 721-8250 October 30, 2003

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FORM PTO 1449 (#	nodified)	THE COMMEN	OCT 3 0 2003	2003_1068A	SERIA 10/62	L NO. 29,786			
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Date S	ubmitted	to PTO: October 30, 2	003	July 30, 2003					
	Т		U.\$	S. PATENT DOCUMENTS	1				
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE		
	AA	2002/0044099	4-18-02	Yamamoto et al.					
	AB					<u> </u>			
	AC								
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			FORE	IGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	CLASS TRANSLATION YES NO		
	AJ	9-135115	5-20-97	Japan			abstract		
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OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)									
	AO								
	AP								
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EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDER	RED				

<sup>\*</sup>EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include cop. this form with next communication to applicant.